

I. **REMARKS**

This Response is filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), a two month Petition for Extension of Time, and the required fees. Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment filed on May 18, 2007.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-9 and 11-20 are allowed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claim 10. Claim 10 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Visca et al. (EP 1 006 168). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Further to the comments submitted in the Amendment filed on May 18, 2007, Applicants submit that Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Visca et al. (EP 1 006 168). Applicants traverse this rejection.

Amended claim 10 is directed to a "method of conferring anti-corrosive properties to metal substrata and their alloys comprising applying a (per)fluoropolyether having a formula selected from:

$R_f - CFY - L - W$ (C)

$W - L - YFC - O - R_f - CFY - L - W$ (D)..."

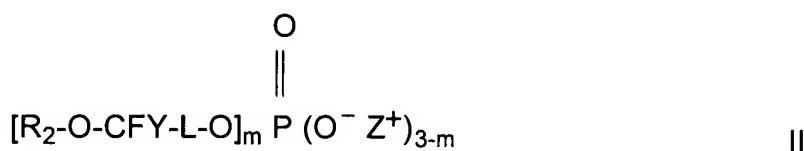
(emphasis added).

In contrast, Visca et al. is directed to "a method for treating surfaces which is specific for certain types of surfaces, particularly paper, 'cotto,' wood and fabrics" (Visca et al., paragraph [0008]) (emphasis added). Applicants submit that although Visca et al. discloses the use of "compounds to impart oil- and water-repellency to cellulose

materials, metallic materials, glass-like materials, cement, marble and the like...,” the only compounds disclosed as having this ability are the following:



and



(Visca et al., paragraph [0005] – [0007]).

Applicants assert that the method of present claim 10 does not utilize compounds of formula (I) and (II). In other words, Applicants submit that compounds of formula (I) and (II) of Visca et al. are not compounds of formula (C) or (D) of present claim 10.

Further, although Visca et al. discloses a compound of formula (III), it does not teach or suggest that the compound can be used to confer “anti-corrosive properties to metal substrata” (present claim 10) (emphasis added). Rather, Applicants submit that Visca et al. merely discloses a method of conferring a different type of property to a different type of surface. Specifically, Visca et al. only discloses the use of the compound in a “method of treating surfaces which is specific for certain types of surfaces, particularly paper, ‘cotto,’ wood and fabrics” (Visca et al., paragraph [0008]) (emphasis added). Further, Visca et al. discloses that the surface treatment provides “oil- and/or water-repellency” (Visca et al., paragraph [0001]). Applicants submit that Visca et al. does not teach or suggest that compounds of formula (C) and/or (D) of present claim 10 can be used on metal substrata, let alone confer anti-corrosive properties to the metal substrata.

As Visca et al. fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the presently claimed invention, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Visca et al..

II. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event this response is not timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 108910-00051.

Respectfully submitted,

ARENT FOX LLP



Yelee Y. Kim

Registration No. 60,088

Customer No. 004372
Arent Fox LLP
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 857-6395

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